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RR RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNH
DE RUEHKO #4111 2050831
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 240831Z JUL 06
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4591
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 7339
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 9928
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 0643
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 8471

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 004111

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DEPT PLEASE PASS TO INR/B.

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/21/2016

TAGS: ECON PINR PREL JA

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON TSE'S NISHIMURO,
NOMURA'S UJIIE

¶1. (C) Tokyo Stock Exchange President and CEO Taizo Nishimuro is an extremely friendly and gracious man. He wears an almost constant smile on his face, unusual among the Japanese who have been known to say that one must look serious in order to be taken seriously. Nishimuro's long association with the US-Japan Business Council undoubtedly adds to his high degree of comfort dealing with non-Japanese, both male and female. He walks with a pronounced limp dating back to the 1960's and uses a cane, which he deftly switches between hands to maneuver doors, business cards, etc. According to the press, he was told by Japanese doctors in 1965 that he had a degenerative muscle disorder which would kill him within three years. In 1968 US doctors indicated the diagnosis might be wrong and proceeded to remove eight cysts from his vertebrae. Nishimuro's experience with the U.S. medical system undoubtedly colors positively his views toward the U.S. today.

¶2. (C) Nishimuro's replacement as head of the US-Business Council is Junichi Ujiie, Chairman of Nomura Holdings, Inc. During a recent meeting with EMIN he played devil's advocate to question suggestions for strengthening US-Japan ties, although it was difficult to determine whether this was in order to fully flesh out the idea or simply to shoot it down. Ujiie lacks the age and stature - physically and intellectually - of his predecessor and has asked Nishimuro to act as his senior adviser for the time being.

SCHIEFFER